

A1 Referring now to FIGURE 2B, a schematic diagram of conventional off-axis illumination system 30 is shown. Incident light 32 strikes mask 34 with an angle of incidence greater than zero degrees with respect to normal. Incident light 32 passes through single slit 31 and is diffracted. Zero order peak 36 preferably has an angle of diffraction approximately equal to the angle of incidence. First order peaks 37 and 38 are diffracted at respective angles equidistant from zero order peak 36. Since incident light 32 has an angle of incidence greater than zero, first order peak 37 has an angle of diffraction less than zero order peak 36 while first order peak 38 has an angle of diffraction greater than zero order peak 36. The angle of incidence for illumination is chosen such that lens 40 may capture zero order peak 36 and first order peak 37, and project the image features present in zero order peak 36 and first order peak 37 onto a wafer (not expressly shown). Off-axis illumination system 30 may capture more spatial information than normal incidence illumination system 10. However, presently available off-axis illumination systems, such as off-axis illumination system 30, typically do not accurately reproduce all fine features of an image because first order peak 38 has a high angle of diffraction, which cannot be captured by lens 40 without using a much larger numerical aperture lens system.

2. Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 17, Line 15 with the following re-written paragraph:

A2 FIGURE 7 illustrates a graph of coating 64 thickness versus transmission maxima. As shown in the legend, each peak in transmission may be assigned an order number and each line on the graph corresponds to one of the order numbers. As the thickness of coating 64 increases, the wavelength at which film 60 has a transmission peak also increases. Vertical line 70 indicates the peak wavelength for an anti-reflective coating having a particular thickness and horizontal line 72 indicates the thickness of the anti-reflective coating that will yield a peak at the chosen wavelength. As shown on the graph, films assigned a lower order number produce peaks at higher wavelengths for a given thickness.